

NEW SCARAB GENERA FROM LOWER AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (Coleoptera)

By LAWRENCE W. SAYLOR

University of California

I owe to Dr. E. C. Van Dyke and Dr. F. E. Blaisdell the opportunity of studying the present new genera, both of which exhibit rather interesting structural characteristics. The types of both are deposited in the collections of the California Academy of Sciences.

CHAUNOCOLUS Saylor, New Genus.

Facies robust-oval, pilose above. Head with an erect horn, clypeus with sides parallel, apex reflected. Thorax with two high oblique tumosities each side of middle, the surface between deeply concave; front margin thin but not membranous. Elytra much less than twice the length of the thorax, sides without membrane. Antennae 9-segmented; club 3-segmented, the segments close-fitting. Eyes from above flat, sunken, inconspicuous. Ligula free from mentum. Abdominal segments except last, closely connate, the sutures entirely effaced, the last segment free. Claws long, with a minute acute tooth at center. Front femora bidentate, apparently without an inner spur. Front coxae conical. Hind and middle tibiae with two apical spurs. All tarsi but little longer than their respective tibiae; first segment hind tarsus but little longer than second. Propygidium and fifth ventral segments not connate but separated as in *Oncerus*, the last spiracle very minute and apparently below the suture.

GENOTYPE: *CHAUNOCOLUS CORNUTUS*, New Species.

CHAUNOCOLUS CORNUTUS Saylor, New Species.

Robust-oval, rufocastaneous with somewhat piceous tinge, strongly shining, pilose above. Head with a stout erect horn at center-base of front, the vertex and front each side of the horn impunctate and polished, along the eye margin and genae with long erect hairs; clypeal suture not obvious but surface somewhat transversely obliquely carinate at apparent position of the clypeal suture; clypeus elongate, sides parallel, apex broadly evenly rounded; apex greatly reflexed, sides slightly reflexed; clypeal disc with dense very coarse punctures, with short erect hair. Antennae 9-segmented, second segment globose, third but little longer than second, subcylindrical; fourth shorter than third; fifth and sixth segments very short and globose; club oval, subequal to segments two to six combined. Thorax with sides evenly

rounded, margin from above very finely crenulate, with very dense long yellowish cilia; front margin thin and seemingly membranous but in reality with a fine hair margin; base finely completely margined, with short erect cilia. Thoracic disc with two high subcariniform tumosities, these tumosities running from each side of middle just in front of the base obliquely forward towards the front angles, but suddenly declivious before reaching the front angles; surface between the two oblique tumosities deeply widely concave, surface highly polished and very sparsely irregularly finely punctured, with a few erect hairs of great length; outer part of tumosities in basal half impunctate, in apical half sparsely punctured with moderately long erect hair. Scutellum smooth, entirely impunctate. Elytra about one and one-half times longer than thorax, surface subrugose, finely irregularly punctured, with uniform moderately dense suberect hair; sutural or other costae not obvious. Abdomen polished, with sparse punctures bearing very long erect yellowish hairs, the latter denser at sides; last segment plane, impunctate, apex with long cilia. Pygidium polished, very convex, surface moderately densely finely punctured, with very long erect hair; apex subrounded, ciliate. Front tibiae bidentate. Hind femora very robust, tibiae short, about twice longer than the width at apex, inner face and sides with coarse granulate punctures, with long moderately dense hairs; sides with a short oblique carina. Hind tarsi one and one-fourth times longer than tibiae, first tarsus a little longer than the second, the third to fifth successively a little shorter than each preceding segment. Length 4.7 mm. Width 2.5 mm.

The unique male *Type* is from La Paz, Baja California, Mexico, collected by G. F. Ferris on June 29, 1919.

The present genus is related to *Oncerus*, *Pseudocratus*, *Podolasia*, and *Chnaunanthus* in the mouthparts, spiracles and connate ventral abdominal segments, but may readily be separated from all by the cornute head and the concave thorax.

XEROPSAMOBEUS Saylor, New Genus.

Form elongate-oval, somewhat subparallel behind, thorax widest in apical third, body not narrower in front. Mandibles not visible from above. Clypeus grossly tuberculate. Thorax evenly convex, with no traces of any transverse ridge or sulcus; margin fimbriate with fine hairs. Elytra slightly more than twice longer than thorax, very slightly wider behind, humeral angles very prominent and thus probably with well-developed wings. Hind tibiae with two transverse ridges; hind tarsi short, only slightly triangular, first segment very slightly longer than the next two combined, total length of tarsi noticeably shorter than tibiae. Front tibiae tridentate. Characters otherwise as in *Psammobius*.

GENOTYPE: *PSAMMOBIUS DESERTUS* Van Dyke.

This distinctive little southern California species, which has apparently not been taken since the type, is quite different in facies as well as characters from the other U. S. species of *Psammobius*. From those species that are fully winged it differs especially in the non-sulcate thorax and more robust elongate form, as well as the much less triangular hind tarsal segments; from those U. S. species having very short vestigial wings (as evidenced by the widely rounded elytral humeral angles) the present species differs in the prominent elytral humeral angles as well as in the thorax and leg characters cited above. Also, most of the species of *Psammobius*, including two European species I have studied, have the margin of the hind tibiae serrate, while in the present new genus it is smooth.

ACOMA ROBUSTA Van Dyke.

This species varies somewhat from the other species of the genus so I have included some line drawings in the accompanying plate to show the general form and salient characters. Apparently quite locally distributed on the Lower California peninsula, as I have seen no specimens except the type series collected by Professor Ferris.

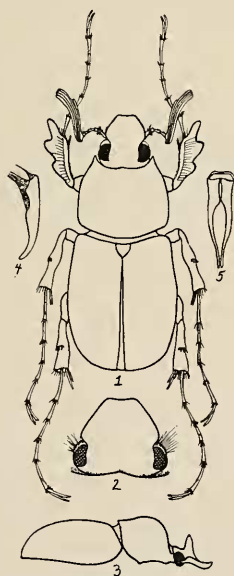


PLATE 16

Figure 1. *Acoma robusta* Van Dyke.

Figure 2. Idem. Enlarged view of head.

Figure 3. *Chaunocolus cornutus* Saylor, from *Type*.

Figure 4. Genitalia of *Acoma robusta* V. D. Side view.

Figure 5. Idem. En face view of genitalia.